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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: MUSSMANN *et al.* Examiner: STRICKLAND, J.N.  
Serial No.: 09/931,162 Group Art Unit: 1754  
Filed: August 17, 2001  
For: Oxygen storage material based on cerium oxide, a process for its  
preparation and use  
Customer No.: 23719

Kalow & Springut LLP  
488 Madison Avenue, 19th Floor  
New York, New York 10022

October 19, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

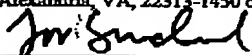
Sir:

This amendment is in response to the final Office Action mailed on April 21, 2004 in connection with the above-identified application. The time set for filing a response to the Office Action expired on July 21, 2004. Pursuant to the enclosed petition and fee for a three-months extension of time, the time set for filing a response now expires October 21, 2004, and thus this amendment is timely filed.

EV279582994US

**Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10**

I hereby declare that on the date indicated below, this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail Label No. EV 279582994 US in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

  
(Signature)TOR S. MELAND  
(Printed Name of Person Signing  
Certificate)19 OCTOBER 2004  
(Date)